

LATE

BILL NO: SB 964

[illegible]

THE SENATE

Committee on Human Services and Housing
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Vice Chair

Committee on Health
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

State Capitol, Conference Room 016
Tuesday, February 3, 2015; 1:20 p.m.

**STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON S.B. 964
RELATING TO AGING**

The ILWU Local 142 strongly supports S.B. 964, which appropriates funds or facilitates programs and positions for: Kupuna Care; the Aging and Disability Resource Center; an Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia services coordinator; specified senior centers; falls prevention and early detection services; the Healthy Aging Partnership; and an Alzheimer's and dementia public awareness campaign.

The need for all of these services and programs is well-documented. Hawaii's population is aging and the "silver tsunami" will soon be upon us.

Kupuna Care provides home-delivered meals, bathing and chore services, transportation, and case management to help seniors avoid costly institutionalization and keep them living in their own homes. Services offered at senior centers like Lanakila, Kapahulu Center, Moiliili Community Center, and Waikiki Community Center help seniors maintain their independence through physical activity, mental stimulation, and socialization. In addition, the Healthy Aging Partnership assists participants to engage in education and activities to stay healthy.

Alzheimer's Disease, dementia, and falls are extremely costly. The cost of care for patients with Alzheimer's and dementia and for those who have fallen are astronomical in terms of dollars as well as emotional and physical costs for both the caregiver and receiver of care. Hundreds of thousands of hours are spent each day by caregivers providing services to care for these patients. The impact of Alzheimer's Disease and dementia can be mitigated with medical treatment and medication for the patient and information and education for the family. A dedicated coordinator to provide information and resource referrals can help families cope with the ongoing stress and strain of caring for a family members with Alzheimer's or dementia. Similarly, the falls prevention coordinator funded last year must be maintained to help provide a coordinated response to the problem of elderly people falling and the avalanche of costs for hospitalization, rehabilitation, and long-term care.

The Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) are well on their way to being a "one-stop center" for information and referral services for those needing care and their families. Additional funding is needed to make the system of ADRC's operational on all islands, particularly on Oahu where the population and the need is the greatest.

The ILWU strongly urges passage of S.B. 2228. Thank you for considering our views.



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PROTECTING HAWAII'S OHANA, CHILDREN, UNDER SERVED, ELDERLY AND DISABLED

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TO: Senator Suzanne Chun-Oakland, Chair
Senator Josh Green, Chair
Members, Committee on Human Services and Housing
Members, Committee on Health

FROM: Scott Morishige, Executive Director, PHOCUSED

HEARING: Senate Committees on Human Services and Housing, and Health
Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 1:20 p.m. in Conference Room 016

Testimony in Support of SB964, Relating to Aging.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony **in support** of SB964, which would appropriate funds for a long-term care education and awareness campaign, the Kupuna Care program and the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC). PHOCUSED is a statewide coalition of health, housing, and human services organizations committed to strengthening policies and programs that benefit the marginalized and underserved in Hawaii.

Hawaii's population of older adults – our kupuna aged 60 and older – has grown rapidly, and is expected to continue increasing significantly over the next 20 years. With the first group of baby boomers entering this age-phase, the dynamic of our kupuna population is changing. Today's older adults are healthier and more active; they are engaged in social and community activities, and with the proper supports they can maintain this independence and higher quality of living.

The range of services and programs funded for this bill will provide crucial education, wellness, case management, nutrition, fitness, transportation, healthy living, pain management and other supports that support our kupuna to live with the highest levels of independence possible.

Once again, PHOCUSED strongly supports this bill, and we appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important issue. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact PHOCUSED at 521-7462 or by e-mail at admin@phocused-hawaii.org.



HPCA

HAWAII PRIMARY CARE ASSOCIATION

Senate Committee on Human Services and Housing

The Hon. Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair

The Hon. Josh Green, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Health

The Hon. Josh Green, Chair

The Hon. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

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Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 964

Relating to Aging

Submitted by Robert Hirokawa, Chief Executive Officer

February 3, 2015, 1:20 pm, Room 016

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA), which represents the federally qualified community health centers in Hawaii, supports House Bill 964, providing needed funding for various programs designed to assist the aging population.

Elderly residents comprise the fastest growing segment of the population here in Hawaii. Among them, falls are the leading cause of fatal injuries and injury related hospitalizations in the state. Cumulatively, these falls account for a yearly average of eighty-two deaths and eighteen hundred hospitalizations, representing a total of over \$65,000,000 per year. In addition to falls, Alzheimer's disease is on the rise in Hawaii. There is also an increasing need for senior centers and various agencies.

Further, there is an ever increasing need for long term care services. In the next twenty years, the population requiring such services will increase by almost two-thirds. Basic education and awareness about these issues, along with the topics of elder abuse and fraud, must be made available for this emerging population. Doing so will serve to both foster a healthier aging population, but also a more fiscally responsible community as a whole.

For these reasons, the HPCA supports this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Heather Chun, MSW
420 Poipu Drive
Honolulu, Hawaii 96825

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**Committee on Human Services and Housing, and
Committee on Health**

February 3, 2015 at 1:20pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

In consideration of
SB 964
Relating to Aging

I strongly support **SB 964**, Relating to Aging. Enhancing the Aging Network in developing systems to support persons with Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias (ADRD) - including a public awareness campaign to promote early detection/ diagnosis and an ADRD state coordinator. The Alzheimer's Association has projected that, by 2025, 10% of older adults aged 65 and older will be diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease. Stigma, fear, and the lack of public understanding of ADRD have profound impacts on the public's understanding of early warning signs of ADRD, leading to early and accurate diagnosis of the disease. It's imperative for us to educate the public to understand these early warning signs to ensure they access appropriate care early on.

Additionally, evidence-based programs through the Healthy Aging Partnership and funding long-term services and supports (LTSS) for older adults throughout Hawaii are vital to strengthening all systems throughout the state to meet the care needs of our rapidly aging population.

Should you have any questions, you may reach me at heathmc1400@yahoo.com or (808) 286-2982. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Heather Chun, MSW

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alzheimer's association®

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February 3, 2015

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Honorable Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
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Honorable Senator Josh Green, Chair
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RE: SB964 Relating to Aging

Dear Chairwoman Chun Oakland, Chairman Green and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB964. On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter, I am pleased to extend our full support for Senate Bill 964, which provides funding for the Kupuna Care Program, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), the Healthy Aging Partnership and a education and public awareness campaign on Alzheimer's Disease.

The Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter strongly supports additional funding for the ADRCs to provide enhanced availability of services for Kupuna statewide. A key strategy in the *Hawaii State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias* is the availability of a one-stop resource for information about and referral to long-term care, support, and services.

We also strongly support enhanced funding for the Kupuna Care program, which provides home and community-based services for elderly persons, including respite for family caregivers. Approximately seventy percent (70%) of older adults with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias live in the community and usually receive a significant amount of their care from family caregivers. In addition, those with cognitive impairment needing assistance with activities of daily living, such as dressing and bathing, are more than twice as likely to receive paid home care than those without cognitive impairment.ⁱ Alzheimer's family caregivers report the highest levels caregiver-related stress, burn-out, and health problems, and thus, stand to benefit tremendously from the enhanced availability of Kupuna Care respite and support services.ⁱⁱ

Finally, we strongly support the allocation of funding for an education and awareness campaign on Alzheimer's disease and/or Related Dementias. Alzheimer's disease is a growing epidemic and is now the nation's sixth leading cause of death. As baby boomers age, the number of individuals living with Alzheimer's will increase

disease today. Here in Hawai'i, more than 25,000 individuals over age 65 have been diagnosed with Alzheimer's, and 1 in 3 kupuna die with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia.

Despite the belief of many, Alzheimer's disease is not a normal part of aging. Memory often changes as you grow older but memory loss that disrupts daily life is not a typical part of aging. It may be a symptom of dementia. However, the lack of awareness on such, often results in minimal to no reporting of memory issues to one's physician. The lack of reporting such often leads to a failure to obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis.

According to data from the 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), In Hawaii, 9.2% of those aged 60 and over report that they are experiencing confusion or memory loss that is happening more often or is getting worse. Nearly 90% of them have not talked to a health care professional about it – the highest among 22 states reporting data.

As many as half of those who meet the diagnostic criteria for dementia have not received a diagnosis from a physician. Early detection and diagnosis are essential to providing the best medical care and outcomes for those at any stage of the disease. Even without a way to cure or slow the progression of dementia, including Alzheimer's disease, an early formal diagnosis offers the best opportunities for intervention and better outcomes.

Thus, a public awareness campaign on the warning signs and the importance of early detection is so critical as it will ensure that individuals will obtain an early and appropriate diagnosis.

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on this legislation and applaud your leadership in bringing it forward.

With best regards,



Christine Payne
Executive Director
Alzheimer's Association, Aloha Chapter

ⁱ Alzheimer's Association, 2013 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, *Alzheimer's and Dementia*, Volume 9, Issue 2: 46

ⁱⁱ Alzheimer's Association, 2013 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures, *Alzheimer's and Dementia*, Volume 9, Issue 2: 33